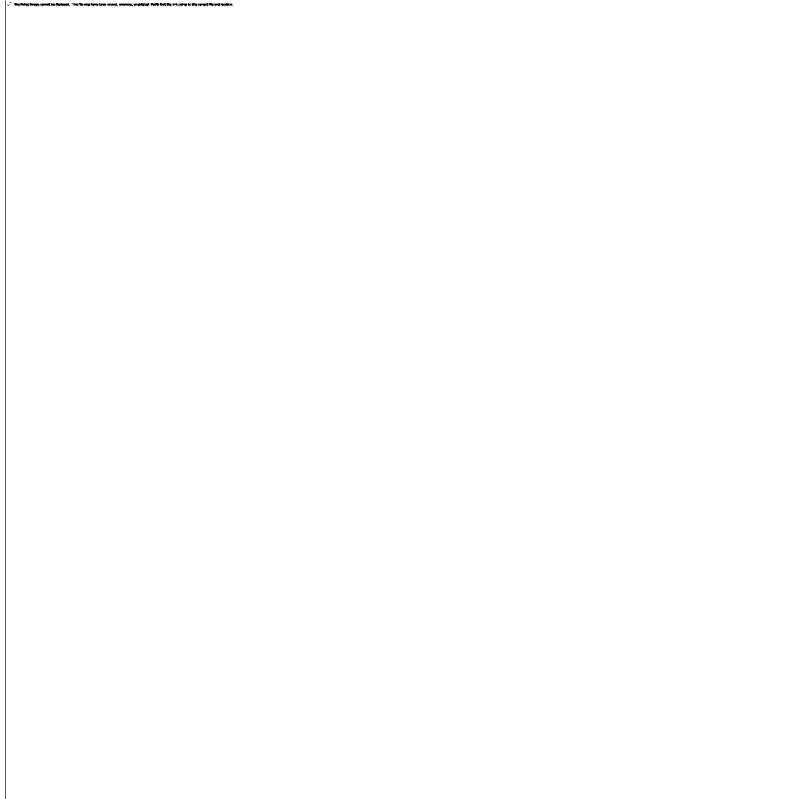
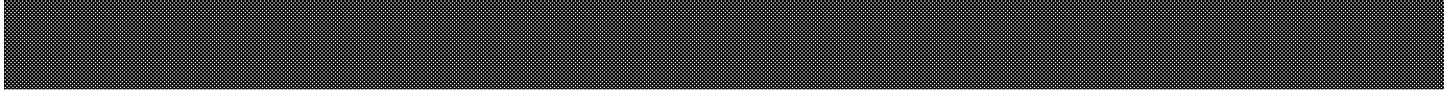


## Message

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**From:** Morning Consult [reply@e.morningconsult.com]  
**Sent:** 3/27/2018 12:50:32 PM  
**To:** Woods, Clint [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=bc65010f5c2e48f4bc2aa050db50d198-Woods, Clint]  
**Subject:** Morning Consult Energy: California Said to Consider Decoupling Auto Emissions Rules from Federal Standards



By Sei Chong

## Top Stories

- If the Environmental Protection Agency eases Obama-era rules on vehicle greenhouse gas emissions, California is likely to push back by decoupling the state's standards from the federal rules and has begun informing the nine states that have adopted California's standards of the possibility, two people familiar with the matter said. If California goes its own way on emissions standards, it

would require automakers to adjust to different efficiency regulations around the nation. (Bloomberg)

- The city council of Jacksonville, Fla., is expected to approve today fast-tracked incentives for JinkoSolar (U.S.) Inc., a Chinese solar panel maker that wants to open a plant in the city. JinkoSolar would be the first Chinese company to set up a factory in the United States after President Donald Trump imposed tariffs on imported solar panel equipment in January. (Jacksonville Daily Record)
- U.S. District Judge Brian Morris in Great Falls, Mont., has ordered Bureau of Land Management officials who are involved in regional planning for the Powder River Basin, which supplies 40 percent of the nation's coal, to consider reducing coal mining as a way to fight climate change. The judge, who issued the ruling Friday, told the government and environmental groups to work together on additional planning in the region but declined environmentalists' request to halt mining. (The Associated Press)

## Chart Review

Coal tycoon governor Jim Justice uses loophole to leave mines and workers idle

**Climate Home News**

## Events Calendar (All Times Local)

### TUESDAY

Sustainable Water Management Conference	7 a.m.
California Solar Power Expo	7 a.m.
American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers' International Petrochemical Conference	8:30 a.m.

EPA listening session on proposed repeal of Clean Power Plan	9 a.m.
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American Association of Petroleum Geologists Global Super Basins Leadership Conference	6 p.m.
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**WEDNESDAY**

American Association of Petroleum Geologists Global Super Basins Leadership Conference	6 a.m.
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California Solar Power Expo	8 a.m.
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Sustainable Water Management Conference	8 a.m.
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U.S. Energy Association brown bag lunch on integrating intermittent renewables	12 p.m.
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EESI and National Association of State Energy Officials briefing on public/private drive toward resilient buildings	12 p.m.
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**THURSDAY**

American Association of Petroleum Geologists Global Super Basins Leadership Conference	6 a.m.
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**FRIDAY**

No events scheduled

## Morning Consult Report: The Future of Retail

Get insights into how consumers are reacting to changes in the retail industry, and what they're looking for in the future.

### General

California's Ready to Retaliate If Trump Cuts Auto Rules, Sources Say

**Ryan Beene and John Lippert, Bloomberg**

As the Trump administration begins to dismantle Barack Obama's ambitious auto efficiency regulations, California is said to be poised to retaliate by doing something that automakers have feared: de-coupling the state's rules with those set in Washington.

EPA Plan Would Discount Health Benefits of Reducing CO2 Emissions

**Niina Heikkinen, E&E News**

U.S. EPA's "secret science" plan could reduce the health benefits that come along with controlling carbon emissions, scrambling previous calculations that gave weight to saving lives and avoiding heart attacks. The most immediate consequence of the potential policy—which would prevent the agency from using some scientific studies in its rulemaking—could fall on EPA's efforts to rewrite the Clean Power Plan, according to proponents and critics of EPA's proposal.

The E.P.A. Says It Wants Research Transparency. Scientists See an Attack on Science.

**Lisa Friedman, The New York Times**

The Environmental Protection Agency is considering a major change to the way it assesses scientific work, a move that would severely restrict the research available to it when writing environmental regulations.

Unlike those in the resistance, certain career officials' stars have risen under Trump

**Juliet Eilperin and Dino Grandoni**

He's known by some as the cicada. Randal Bowman has toiled 32 years at the Interior Department. A proponent of limited federal regulation, he goes underground during Democratic administrations.

Sources: Zinke tells employees diversity isn't important

**Sara Ganim, CNN**

Several employees at the Interior Department have told CNN that Secretary Ryan Zinke repeatedly says that he won't focus on diversity, an apparent talking point that has upset many people within the agency. Three high-ranking Interior officials from three different divisions said that Zinke has made several comments with a similar theme, saying

"diversity isn't important," or "I don't care about diversity," or "I don't really think that's important anymore."

Oil holds above \$70 as geopolitics eclipses supply outlook  
**Amanda Cooper, Reuters**

Oil rose on Tuesday, holding above \$70 a barrel for a third day, supported by concerns that tensions in the Middle East could lead to supply disruptions, although with global output rising fast, investors remained cautious.

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## Oil and Natural Gas

Shell sketches future with drastically fewer fossil fuels  
**Amy Harder, Axios**

Coal, oil and natural gas would plummet within the next couple of decades in a new report Royal Dutch Shell released Monday, envisioning a future where world leaders cut greenhouse gas emissions as laid out in the 2015 Paris climate deal.

Deepwater Oil Starting to Hold Its Own With Shale, Chevron Says  
**David Wethe, Bloomberg**

Chevron Corp. is studding the ocean floor with heavy-duty pumping gear as part of an effort to make deepwater oil discoveries competitive with shale.

Devon Energy eyes more asset sales to simplify portfolio  
**Ernest Scheyder, Reuters**

U.S. oil producer Devon Energy Corp said on Monday it was looking to sell even more assets than previously announced in order to focus its portfolio on three shale regions.

Inside the Tax Bill's \$25 Billion Oil Company Bonanza  
**Antonia Juhasz, Pacific Standard**

Last month, during a retreat in West Virginia, congressional Republicans set out their 2018 party goals. Their primary objective is to hold onto their majorities in the House of Representatives and the Senate, and the key mechanism for doing so is to ride the coattails of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.

## Foreign Trade Houses Grab Dominant Share of U.S. Crude Exports

**Sarah McFarlane, The Wall Street Journal**

A handful of international trade houses are dominating the buying and selling of U.S. crude exports, two years after Washington lifted its ban on sending oil abroad.

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## Utilities and Infrastructure

### MVP contractor tied to pipeline cited for environmental violations

**Kate Mishkin, Charleston Gazette-Mail**

A construction company working on a natural gas pipeline that recently was accused of violating environmental standards also will work on the Mountain Valley Pipeline. Precision Pipeline, a Wisconsin-based construction company, will work on the Mountain Valley Pipeline, which is still in its nascent stages. It has been working on the Rover Pipeline, which is nearing completion.

### Appeals court rejects bid for pipeline restrictions

**Alex Rose, Delaware County Daily Times**

The Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania has rejected an appeal from six Middletown residents seeking the ability to enforce a local ordinance against Sunoco in the construction of the Mariner East 2 pipeline.

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## Renewables

### When incentives are in hand, JinkoSolar to move quickly

**Karen Brune Mathis, Jacksonville Daily Record**

JinkoSolar (U.S.) Industries Inc.'s plans for its Jacksonville solar-panel plant could unfold quickly if City Council signs off Tuesday, as expected, on fast-tracked legislation for incentives.

### How California Taught China to Sell Electric Cars

**Mark Chediak et al., Bloomberg**

A liberal bastion and an authoritarian government agree on how to help bring about the future of cars, with help from the state.



## China draws up plans to promote standardization in electric vehicles

**David Stanway, Reuters**

China said it will work to improve levels of standardization in its electric vehicle industry - a sector it is aggressively promoting to help combat smog and to position the country as a leading car-making giant in the future.

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## **Coal**

### Judge: Less mining must be studied for No. 1 US coal region

**Mead Gruver, The Associated Press**

U.S. government officials who engage in regional planning for an area of Wyoming and Montana that supplies 40 percent of the nation's coal must consider reducing coal mining as a way to fight climate change, a judge has ruled.

### Half of All U.S. Coal Plants Would Lose Money Without Regulation

**Joe Ryan, Bloomberg**

It's long been clear that U.S. coal plants are struggling. A study released Monday shows how much - concluding that barely half earned enough revenue last year to cover their operating expenses.

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## **Nuclear**

### ITER nuclear fusion project avoids delays as U.S. doubles budget

**Geert De Clercq, Reuters**

The United States has agreed to double its planned 2018 budget contribution to the ITER project to build a prototype nuclear fusion reactor, avoiding delays to the international project this year, its director said on Monday.

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## **Climate**

### Meeting Paris Agreement Targets Will Take Massive Cuts in Emissions

**Brian K Sullivan, Bloomberg**

Meeting the Paris accord's temperature targets will take massive cuts to greenhouse gas emissions within 15 years, but won't require them to be reduced to zero, according to a new study published Monday in the journal Nature Climate Change.

### Runaway Arctic Ice Menaces Oil Rigs and Shipping as the Planet Warms

**Bob Berwyn, InsideClimate News**

As the planet warms, giant icebergs and sea ice that once would have remained trapped in the frozen Arctic are moving southward faster and more frequently, menacing shipping and oil and gas drilling operations.

### These Maps Show How Climate Change Will Mess Up The Weather Where You Live

**Ben Schiller, Fast Company**

If you like the weather where you live, but are worried it's not going to be the same as climate change wreaks havoc on meteorological systems, there's now a way to know where you should be planning to move. The Climate Ex map shows the climatic similarities between different places, as well as the projected climate changes for those places over time.

### Hotting up: how climate change could swallow Louisiana's Tabasco island

**Oliver Milman, The Guardian**

Avery Island, a dome of salt fringed by marshes where Tabasco sauce has been made for the past 150 years, has been an outpost of stubborn consistency near the Louisiana coast. But the state is losing land to the seas at such a gallop that even its seemingly impregnable landmarks are now threatened.

### China meets 2020 carbon target ahead of schedule: Xinhua

**David Stanway, Reuters**

China met its 2020 carbon intensity target three years ahead of schedule last year, the official Xinhua news agency reported on Tuesday, citing the country's top climate official Xie Zenhua.

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## Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

### The EPA Cleans Up Its Science

**Steve Milloy, The Wall Street Journal**

The Environmental Protection Agency will no longer rely on "secret" scientific data to justify regulations, Administrator Scott Pruitt announced last week. EPA regulators and agency-funded researchers have become accustomed to producing unaccountable, dodgy science to advance a political agenda.

### Scott Pruitt's Attack on Science Would Paralyze the E.P.A.

**Gina McCarthy and Janet G. McCabe, The New York Times**

Scott Pruitt, the administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, has announced that he alone will decide what is and isn't acceptable science for the agency to use when developing policies that affect your health and the environment.

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## Research Reports

### Predicting unpredictability

**Steven J. Davis, Nature**

Analysts and markets have struggled to predict a number of phenomena, such as the rise of natural gas, in US energy markets over the past decade or so. Research shows the challenge may grow because the industry - and consequently the market - is becoming increasingly volatile.

### Enhancing Canada's Climate Commitments: Building on the Pan-Canadian Framework

**Jeffrey Rissman et al., Energy Innovation and Pembina Institute**

The Pembina Institute and Energy Innovation collaborated to create the Canada Energy Policy Simulator, a versatile, free and open-source computer model evaluating the impacts of 50 policies on pollutant emissions, cash flows, human lives saved, and more. Our analysis finds that even if the PCF is fully implemented, 2030 emissions will exceed Canada's goal by 161 million metric tons (MMT), a gap 3.7 times larger than the 44 MMT shortfall predicted by Canada's government.



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